

Message Text

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ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02

SS-15 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 OMB-01 RSR-01

/183 W

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R 071812Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2391

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, FR, GATT, EC

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF FRENCH OFFICIAL ON ARTICLE 24:6 NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A)STATE 148243; B) PARIS 21155

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE ARTICLE 24:6 PROBLEM WITH FREYCHE,
ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT POMPIDOU, AND
FOUND HIM SOMEWHAT MORE FLEXIBLE THAN THE TECHNICAL LEVEL
OFFICIALS WHOSE VIEWS WERE REPORTED IN REF B. FREYCHE NOTED
THAT THE COMMISSION HAD PRODUCED A LIST OF COMMODITIES ON
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WHICH THE COMMISSION PROPOSED CONCESSIONS DESIGNED TO

COMPENSATE THE FIVE DEFICIT COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH THE EC TOOK THE POSITION THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT A DEFICIT COUNTRY, SOME OF THE ITEMS ON THIS LIST WOULD BENEFIT THE U.S. FREYCHE THOUGHT THAT THIS FORMULA WAS THE BEST WAY OF RECONCILING OUR INTERESTS WITH THE EC POSITION. THAT IS, IT MADE IT POSSIBLE TO OFFER TO THE U.S. COMPENSATION WITHOUT GETTING HUNG UP ON THE ARGUMENT OF WHETHER OR NOT THE EC ACTUALLY OWED HE U.S. COMPENSATION.

2. WITHOUT EXPRESSING A VIEW AS TO WHETHER OR NOT SUCH A FORMULA WOULD IN FACT PROVE ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S., WE NOTED THAT THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS HAD NOT YET COME TO A DECISION ON THIS LIST AND THAT SOME OF THE ITEMS ON THE LIST WERE OBVIOUSLY OF GREATER INTEREST TO THE U.S. THAN TO ANY ONE OF THE SO-CALLED DEFICIT COUNTRIES. WE WONDERED WHETHER THERE WAS ANYTHING FREYCHE COULD TELL US ABOUT THE GOF ATTITUDE TOWARD THE LIST.

3. FREYCHE REPLIED THAT THE GOF HAD NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION. HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT HE COULD SAFELY SAY THAT A SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE WORKED OUT WHICH WOULD NOT CAUSE THE U.S. MAJOR DIFFICULTY. THERE WAS STILL SOME HARD BARGAINING AHEAD BUT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT A FINAL SETTLEMENT JUST AS HE HAD BEEN IN THE CASE OF THE LINK BETWEEN THE TRADE AND MONETARY NEGOTIATIONS (WHERE, HE RECALLED, HE HAD CORRECTLY PREDICTED THAT THE GOF WOULD IN THE END GO ALONG WITH ITS EC PARTNERS-- SEE PARIS 19556). FREYCHE SAID THE GOF REGARDED THE ARTICLE 24:6 PROBLEM AS ESSENTIALLY A POLITICAL PROBLEM AND HE SUGGESTED IT WOULD NOT PRESS ITS OWN VIEWS TO THE POINT OF AN OPEN CONFRONTATION WITH THE U.S. DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1977.
STONE

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